

App'n No. 10/659,020
Amndt. Dated December 07, 2004
Response to Office action of October 29, 2004

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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the Examiner's final Office Action of October 22, 2004 the Applicant submits the accompanying Amendment to the claims and the below Remarks directed thereto.

In the present application claims 1 to 11 are currently pending. In the Amendment: independent claim 1 is amended to recite that the transport assembly is arranged in the casing to engage with a powered gear provided on the printing device with which the cartridge is to be used, where the transport assembly drives the print media from the casing in cooperation with the powered gear. Support for this amendment can be found, for example, at page 4, line 20-page 5, line 2 of the present specification, and in pending claims 3-6;

dependent claim 7 is amended to correct an antecedent deficiency; and claims 2 to 6 and 8 to 11 are unchanged.

It is respectfully submitted that the above amendments do not add new matter to the present application, nor do they present new issues beyond those presented for the final Office Action since the amended subject matter of claim 1 is supported by pending claims 3-6.

Allowable Claims

The Applicant appreciates the Examiner's continued indication as to the allowability of claims 3 to 6 under the conditions specified in the final Office Action.

§102(e) rejections over McIntyre et al. (USP 6,149,256)

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of amended independent claim 1, and claims 2 and 7 to 11 dependent therefrom, is not disclosed by McIntyre for at least the following reasons.

As explained in the Applicant's response to the previous Office Action dated June 11, 2004, the cartridge of the present invention incorporates print media and ink supplies 3,4 and a media transport assembly 7,18 in the one casing. The transport assembly engages with a powered gear of a printer with which the cartridge is used. This external engagement enables the transport assembly to be driven by the printer whilst positioning the mechanics for picking-up and driving the print media within the cartridge. This arrangement allows the print media to be fed from the cartridge accurately and with minimum initial contamination (see page 4, line 20-page 5, line 2; and page 6, lines 10-20 of the present specification).

As also explained in the Applicant's response to the previous Office Action, McIntyre does not disclose a cartridge which incorporates print media and ink supplies and a media transport assembly. Rather, McIntyre discloses a system in which a cartridge 10 having receivers (print media) 30 and ink reservoirs 38 is inserted into a camera 11 having a printer 13. The receivers are positioned on a platen 38 which is spring-loaded by springs 31. The springs serve to urge the receivers against a feeding roller 58 of the camera, so that the receivers can be fed to the printer for printing (see col. 4, lines 10-29; and col. 5, lines 1-7 of McIntyre).

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However, the Examiner contends in the "Response to Arguments" section of the current Office Action that the springs of McIntyre facilitate transport of the media and are therefore considered to be a "transport assembly" as claimed in pending claim 1. Whilst the Applicant respectfully disagrees with this contention, the Applicant has amended claim 1 so as to clarify that the transport assembly within the cartridge itself engages with the powered gear provided on the printing device, and through this engagement is used to drive the print media from the cartridge.

This is clearly different than arrangement disclosed in McIntyre. This is because in McIntyre the receivers 30 are engaged with the feeding roller 58 of the printer, not the platen 32 or springs 31 of the Examiner's "transport assembly". It follows therefore, that the platen 32 or springs 31 of the Examiner's "transport assembly" of McIntyre also do not drive the receivers 30 from the cartridge 10. Rather, it is the feeding roller 58 of the printer which does this.

Based on the above, it is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of amended claim 1, and claims 2-11 dependent therefrom, is not anticipated by McIntyre.

Obviousness

Even though a rejection of the pending claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) has not been raised by the Examiner, it is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of amended independent claim 1, and claims 2 and 7 to 11 dependent therefrom, is further not taught or suggested by McIntyre for at least the following reasons.

McIntyre discloses conventional printer systems using separate ink supply cartridges and receiver supply cartridges are too large and complex for use in camera systems having printers. McIntyre therefore simply combines such conventional cartridges to provide a single cartridge with all the replaceable elements, i.e., the ink and receivers, necessary for the portable printer (see col. 1, lines 22-49; and col. 2, lines 6-8 of McIntyre). There is no teaching or suggestion to incorporate the feed rollers, etc of the printer into this combined cartridge, especially since this would appear to increase the complexity of such a cartridge.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of amended claim 1, and claims 2-11 dependent therefrom, is not taught or suggested by McIntyre.

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It is respectfully submitted that all of the Examiner's rejections have been traversed. Accordingly, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Very respectfully,

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